

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7009

BILL NUMBER: HB 1116

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 3, 2010

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Worker's Compensation Doctor in Emergency.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Moseley

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: ☒ GENERAL
☒ DEDICATED
☒ FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill provides that, in a worker's compensation or occupational disease case, whenever an injured or disabled employee is taken to a hospital emergency room and is likely to suffer serious and permanent harm from the injury or disablement as the result of a delay in obtaining a physician furnished by the employer, the employee shall receive and the employer shall pay for treatment necessary to alleviate the likely serious and permanent harm to the employee until a physician furnished by the employer is obtained.

The bill provides that the necessary treatment may be provided by a physician who is not furnished by the employee's employer, and that the necessary treatment includes the surgical, hospital, and nursing services and supplies that the treating physician considers necessary.

Effective Date: July 1, 2010.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The impact on the state would be as an employer. In some cases the provision could increase the cost to the employer, but it could also reduce the cost if immediate care prevented long-term disabilities.

The state's expenditures for medical expenses for worker's compensation cases were about \$8.0 M in FY 2009, \$9.2 M for FY 20089, and \$8.6 M for FY 2007.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: The impact on local government would be as an employer. In some

cases the provision could increase the cost to the employer, but it could also reduce the cost if immediate care prevented long-term disabilities.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: All.

Local Agencies Affected: All.

Information Sources: Auditors databases.

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